

REMARKS

The present amendment and request for reconsideration is filed in response to the final rejection mailed on October 20, 2006.

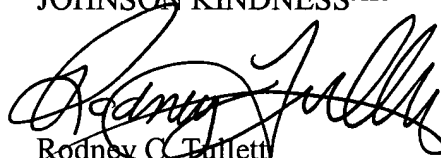
The applicants' attorney thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of the telephone interview held on October 27, during which Claims 1 and 10 were discussed along with U.S. Patent Nos. 4,057,186, to Hedger, and 6,533,772, to Sherts et al. During the interview, it was agreed that the combination of features recited in Claims 1 and 10, as currently amended, is not taught or suggested by the art of record. Support for the amendment is found in the Figures 1, 4, and 8A, as well as at least on page 3, line 22, of the specification. No new matter has been added.

Applicants' attorney also asks the Examiner to disregard the proposed amendment submitted on October 26, 2006. This was sent for purposes of discussion prior to the interview.

In light of the above, it is requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and pass this case to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR  
JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>



Rodney C. Tallett

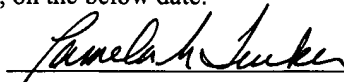
Registration No. 34,034

Direct Dial No. 206.695.1730

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first-class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

Date:

November 8, 2006



RCT:pt

LAW OFFICES OF  
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>  
1420 Fifth Avenue  
Suite 2800  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
206.682.8100